GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

CONTENTS FOR WEEK OF APRIL 7, 1924. Vol. III. No. 5.

1. Java Gives the World Quinine and Batik. 631 - 2nd time used (1st time in Feb. 12-23)
2. Did Africa People Prehistoric Europe? 510
3. Hedjaz, Whose King May Be Caliph. 637
4. Albania Goes Hungry. 470 - 2nd time (1st time in Dec 24-23)
5. Morocco: Where Your Pocket Book Came From. 665

© *National Geographic Society.*

A "HURDY-GURDY" IN TANGIER.

(See Bulletin No. 5.)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

The Geographic News Bulletin is published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Java Gives the World Quinine and Batik

QUININE, listed by the Department of Commerce as one of the foreign monopolies on which the United States depends, is now a Java product, though 40 years ago Peru alone controlled the supply of this necessary medicine. When the cinchona tree, source of quinine, began to be as rare as the Auk, certain wise naturalists began to cultivate it artifically and now the Dutch in far off Java produce 96 per cent of the world's fever medicine.

Java is extremely fertile—made so by its numerous volcanoes, those much maligned beneficent forces. The entire island is the most luxuriant garden spot in all the world. It is so densely populated that its inhabitants must till the soil, and cannot pluck their food from trees as in some South Sea isles. But they do live by a minimum of labor and they require for shelter only a roof over their heads to protect them from frequent rains.

The result of these conditions has been that the present day Javan has had slight need to concern himself with architecture, making machines, or household decorations. Hence his craving for self-expression has expended itself in his personal adornment.

Batik, a Native Art Brought to America

The tedious process of batik making—application of wax to that part of the design which is not to take the dye, the steaming out of the wax and its further application as each successive color is employed, and the knowledge of color required to obtain the delicate shades and hues—long were mysteries which amazed the occasional visitor to Java. Now they are known and practiced with varying degrees of proficiency in various art centers of American communities. This Javan art inevitably suggests a comparison with that distinctive American art, color printing, which employs the same basic principles in achieving the finest gradations of color.

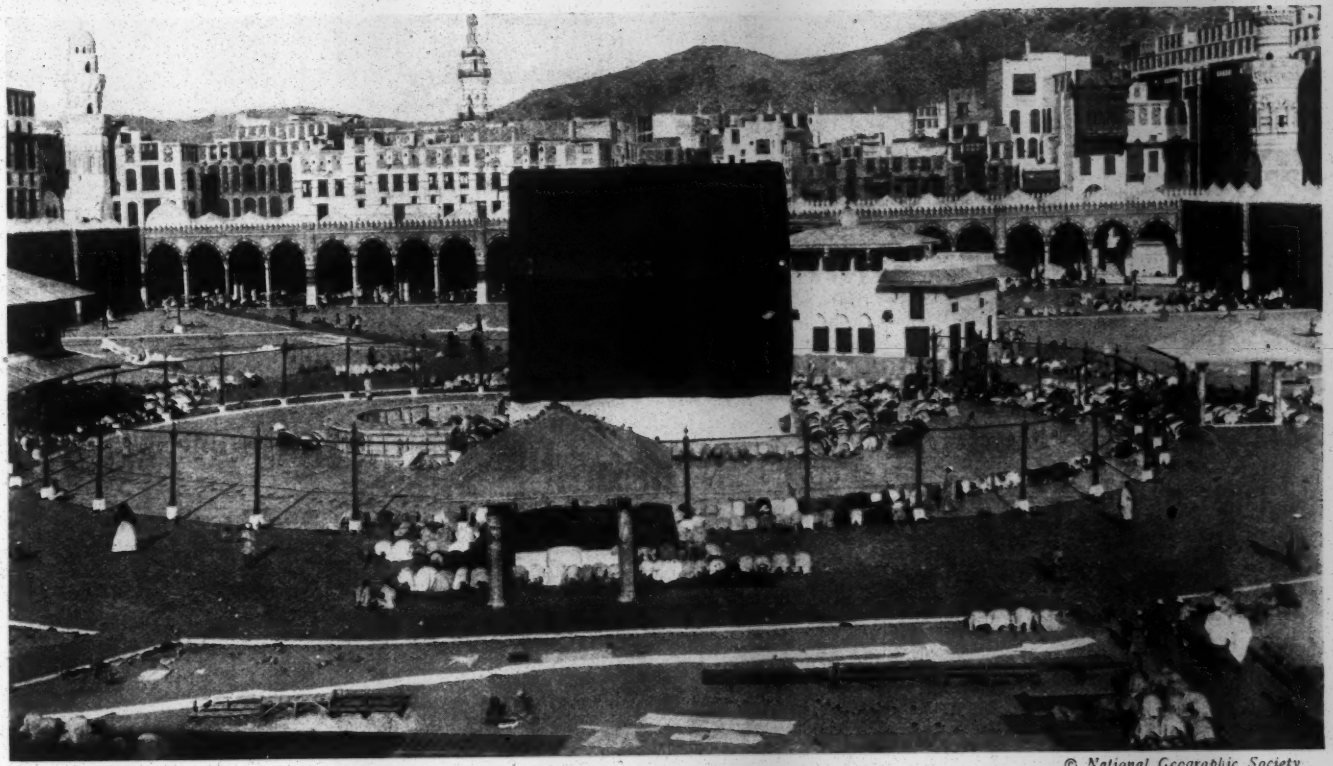
Let us look in on Djokjakarta, a typical town of the island where quinine comes from. One of the most fascinating spots in this city is the market. The Dutch have roofed it over, but under the tile shelters the natives display baskets of rice, bunches of bananas, and leaves bearing preparations of betel, peppers, and ground coconut, just as they do in every Javan town, where the market, or passar, is a center of interest.

What a Javan Eats for Dinner

If your purchase is small enough to warrant wrapping you get a neat package enclosed in banana leaf, which has been called the "wrapping paper of the tropics," fastened with a cactus thorn.

Djokjakarta beckons to the epicure as well as to the esthete. Its rijst-tafel, or rice table, affords a rare gastronomic experience. A Japanese dinner beguiles the visiting diner with a series of exotic tidbits served separately. The Javan meal is a veritable symphony, with its underlying motif a stratum of rice, and upon that rises a structural harmony of foods—vegetable upon egg, curry upon

UMI



© National Geographic Society.

PILGRIMS FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH PROSTRATING THEMSELVES BEFORE THE MOSLEM HOLY OF HOLIES: MECCA

Supposedly a reconstruction of the stone house in which our first parents dwelt in Paradise, the Ka'aba is cubical in shape. In the southeast corner is the famous Black Stone. At least once during his life every devout Moslem hopes to kiss this stone, worn smooth by the touch of lips for centuries. It is an aerolite and undoubtedly owes its reputation to its fall from the sky. In the foreground of this picture may be seen the shrouds for the dead, which have been soaked in the sacred waters of Zem Zem, the well from which Hagar drew the water which revived the dying Ishmael. These shrouds are taken home by the pilgrims and used for burial purposes. (See Bulletin No. 3.)

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Did Africa People Prehistoric Europe?

THE RECENT discovery in a cave in Northern Rhodesia of a human skull apparently many thousands of years old seems to put Africa on the map for the first time as the probable field of development for men who played an important part in the life of prehistoric Europe.

Europe has long been recognized as merely the stage on which late acts of the great drama of the development of man and his civilization have been played. None of the races that has lived in Europe during the long period of man's life on earth is believed to have originated there. Hitherto all evidence pointed to Asia as the source of the succeeding waves of human immigrants as it was the source, at least proximately, of the thousands of horses, deer and cattle that swarmed into the country during interglacial periods.

Africa Considered Only Bridge in Past

Races had come across the land bridges from Africa, but for the most part they had merely used northern Africa as a path, coming from Arabia or farther Asia. The one exception known was the strange appearance along the southern fringe of Europe at one time of a race akin to the negro pygmies of present-day central Africa. But these small negroids were an unimportant factor and soon vanished.

So far as Europe is concerned, the Heidelberg men were the earliest known human inhabitants. A single jaw-bone discovered in Germany represents the datum from which conclusions have been drawn in regard to this race which is supposed to have lived some 200,000 years ago. They are classed as the first wholly human beings of whom fossils have been discovered, and are supposed to have been later by probably a quarter of a million years than the ape-man whose skull was discovered in Java.

Europe's Cave Men Hunters 75,000 B. C.

The Heidelberg men were apparently succeeded about 75,000 years ago by a long persisting type of whom many fossils have been found—the Neanderthal man. Skulls and bones of this widely diffused people have been found in France, Germany, Belgium, Croatia, on the Channel Isles, on the Rock of Gibraltar, and in Malta. They were cave-dwelling hunters and for more than 50,000 years lived off the herds of horses, deer, and cattle that abounded in Europe during that period.

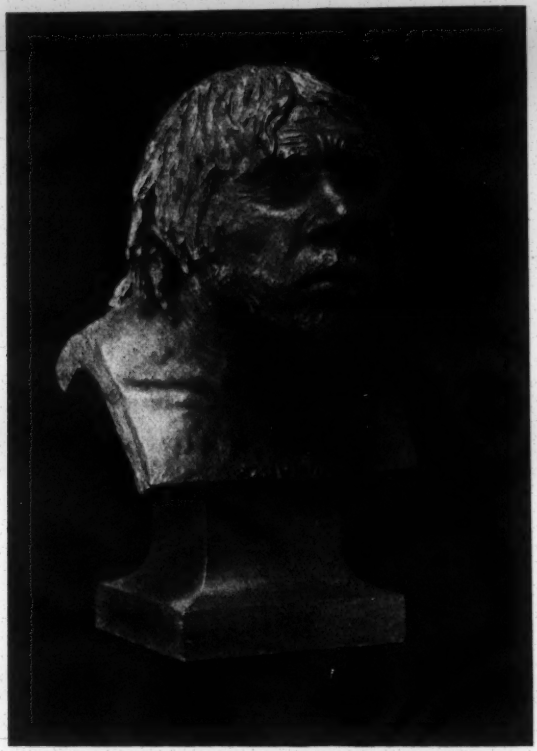
These Neanderthal men were much more advanced than the men of Heidelberg, but still they were lower in the scale than any savage of the present day. They were squat, burly, big-headed and thick-skulled. Their brows projected markedly over cavernous eyes, they were almost chinless, and their knees were permanently bent. The first skull of these people discovered more than 60 years ago was so widely divergent from existing skulls that one scientist insisted

UMI

fish, fowl upon meat. The casual observer must not conclude that this is a sort of variant of the alleged Chinese chop-suey of American invention, a mere hash; rather the principle is one of blending a rainbow of flavors, and tickling the palate by a chromatic scale of taste, in much the same way as the batik maker strives for new combinations of color.

Though the modern Javan is not concerned with architecture the island people of thousands of years ago built temples and monuments which today are objects of wonder to the student and fragments of beauty to the artist. Notable among these is the Great Buddha; or Boro Boedoer, a mighty terraced temple, containing a massive image of Buddha and a remarkable series of bas-reliefs.

To the scientist the island of Java is a potential laboratory for studies of volcanic action. Mt. Katmai, in Alaska, is the largest active volcano in the world, but some of the long-silent craters of Java are greater even than giant Katmai.



© National Geographic Society.

THE NEANDERTHAL MAN, A RACE WHICH LIVED IN CAVES OF CENTRAL FRANCE 50,000 YEARS AGO

Modeled on skull from cave of La-Chapelle-aux-Saints: Correze, France. (See Bulletin No. 2.)

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Hedjaz, Whose King May Be Caliph

KING HUSEIN of Hedjaz, who has been proclaimed Caliph by some elements of the Moslem world, to succeed Abdul Medjid, recently deposed by the Turkish assembly, probably counts it no small aid to his acceptance by all Mohammedans that his capital, Mecca, is the capital of the Mohammedan world. Other reports from India indicate that Moslems of that British dependency, fearing King Husein has associations too closely connected with the London foreign office, are booming the Emir of Afghanistan for the position.

Every year hordes of Moslem pilgrims flock to Mecca, capital city of Hedjaz, which no Christian is supposed to enter.

Imagine the Crusades conducted on tourist trains at special convention rates and you sense something of the incongruity which attaches to the Moslem throngs which make the steel-rail pilgrimage to Mecca.

Throw Stones at Satan, Don Queer Garments

At Medina the faithful leave the modern coaches to proceed along the pilgrim trail to Mecca. Before entering the gates of their holy city they discard all garments to put on their worshippers' uniform—an apron and a piece of cloth thrown over their left shoulder. There these modern Moslems engage in the historic round of ceremonies which includes the stoning of Satan and slaughter of sheep.

All passengers other than Mohammedans must leave the railway trains at El-Ma'an and non-Moslems who enter Hedjaz by steamer approach no nearer Mecca than the Holy City's port, Jidda. The city of Medina, where the bones of the Prophet are believed to repose, also is forbidden, though visitors are not excluded from its environs nor is it so jealously guarded as Mecca.

The Damascus-Medina railway, built to accommodate pilgrim trade, enabled Feisal to throw off the Turkish yoke along the Red Sea, turning over Hedjaz to his father, the present ruler, while he entered Damascus ahead of Allenby and now sits on the throne of Iraq, Britain's Mesopotamia mandatory.

Geography Conspires With Religion

Geography conspires with religion to make Hedjaz remote. Before the war no region had been less accurately mapped and contained more untraversed areas than Arabia. This seclusion, in Central Arabia, arises from the vast desert area; Arabia's far west, or Hedjaz, is a hermitage for other reasons. There the mountain masses of broken granite, and lava surfaces which resemble a newly ploughed field of many rocks, impede travel and often forbid habitation.

In area and shape Hedjaz is comparable to California. In one other respect it resembles our El Dorado State. Its mountain masses swirl into a figure 8, effectually cutting off northern Hedjaz from the southern part. Then the likeness ceases. Instead of abundant fertility in the loop of the "8" the southern division of Hedjaz is a lean land, which even Bedouins scorn. There a few ancient and dwindling tribes eke out an existence by cultivating the occasional arable patches

UMI

that it was a malformation. It was only after the discovery of other fossils that the former existence of this race was generally accepted.

First Neanderthal Discovery in Africa

Though Neanderthal remains have been discovered at the very edge of northern Africa, notably in Gibraltar and Malta, there has been no general tendency to look upon Africa as the source of that people. The skull and bones recently discovered in northern Rhodesia, however, are believed to be of the general Neanderthal type and their discovery opens up the possibility that it was from Africa that Europe's Neanderthal horde came. The "Broken Hill Skull," as the African fossil is called, is in some ways more primitive than the European Neanderthal skulls though it is believed to be more recent. These facts give added weight to the belief that the skull recently found was nearer than the European fossils to the original point of dissemination of the Neanderthal men.

The Neanderthal men represent about the last known types of humans with skull development lower than that of present-day savages. When they disappeared 25,000 or 30,000 years ago they were succeeded by the Cro-Magnon men, hunters and also artists, who have left remarkable drawings of animals on the walls of certain caves in France. They were a tall, finely built, intelligent race, the first known men generally rated as belonging to the same species as our own *Homo sapiens*.

Bulletin No. 2, April 7, 1924.

Form for Renewal of Bulletin Requests

Many requests for the Geographic News Bulletin were made for the year ending with this issue. If you desire the Bulletins continued kindly notify The Society promptly. The attached form may be used:

School Service Department
Washington, D. C.

Kindly send ..... copies of the Geographic News Bulletin for the school year beginning with the issue of ....., for classroom use, to

Name .....

Address for sending Bulletins.....

National Geographic Society

City ..... State.....

I am a teacher in..... school .....grade

Enclose 25 cents for each annual subscription

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Albania Goes Hungry

APPEAL for 200,000 starving Albanians in the north and eastern sections of that small troubled country on the Adriatic, voiced by the council of the League of Nations, fastens attention on the mountaineer state.

Albania is more often found in world news as a scene of conflict. It is not so much that history repeats itself here, as that it engages in a process of monotonous reiteration. Albania has been the *enfant terrible* among European nations. It simply refuses to grow up.

Geography has been hard on Albania. A relief map of the eastern coast of the Adriatic looks like a furrowed field with all the furrows running lengthwise with the shore. These furrows actually are unconnected valleys rimmed with rock. Communication is a great servant of peace; and denied easy communication, Albania has turned to conflict. In turn the difficulties of its grooved terrain have prevented other nations from completely conquering it, so throughout the years, the unforgiving Albanians have maintained their identity.

Baby Nation Has Oldest People

It was the baby nation of Europe in 1914; peopled by the oldest race in its national neighborhood. It does not lurk in the backwaters of Europe because of inferior people; for it has a stock which is sturdy, intelligent, and resourceful. The vitality of the Albanians is exemplified in the mere fact that they continue to exist as a homogenous people amid geographical and historical handicaps that have absorbed or displaced many of their old-time neighbors.

In recent years contacts with Vlachs and Greeks have modified the Tosks, or South Albanians. The wilder part of wild Albania, and the more primitive among its people, the Ghegs, are in the north, along the River Drin.

The Drin is formed by the confluence of the Black Drin, which rises in the beautiful Lake Ohrida, and the mountain-born White Drin. The Drin proper flows due west before it empties into the Adriatic near Lake Scutari, south of Dalmatia, hair-trigger littoral of post-war politics.

Feuds Resemble Conflicts in Appalachians

North of the Drin is a mountain land, the Karst, a Sahara of rock, akin to a fireless cooker in its effect after a hot day. Here live tribes, unconscious of national influences, except to fight invaders. Only once, under Scanderbeg, Kosciuszko of Albania, did they achieve a brief national unity, but it flew apart again upon that hero's death.

Here is the land of the blood feud, a code by which 25 per cent of the men in some tribes are killed off in their prime. Yet this practice is not to be confounded with mere lawlessness. Rather it is a poor substitute for any recognized legal system or any central power to enforce justice.

It is both more rigid and severe, and more elaborate, than the common law of advanced nations. One student of its working found that a failure to make

UMI

and by levying tribute upon the pilgrims. Mecca dominates this region; hence the Shereef of Mecca was a strong figure under Turkish rule and now finds himself independent, largely owing to geography.

Dismal, Waterless, Lava Wedge Splits Hedjaz

The barrier that cuts Hedjaz in two is a triangular plateau of lava with its apex pointed to Rabigh, the seaport where the British landed supplies to aid the Arab uprising against the Turks. One route around this mass lies along the sea by Rabigh, the other is far inland by way of Medina. It rough surface makes this lava-table impassable, lack of water makes it uninhabitable. English geographers have found no Arabs who had penetrated the plateau; airplanes cut across parts of it only to find dismal, waterless, stony wastes.

Bulletin No. 3, April 7, 1924.

© National Geographic Society.

COSTUMES FOR FESTIVAL IN JAVA. (See Bulletin No. 1.)

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Morocco, Where Your Pocketbook Came From

THE AGE-OLD conflict between Spaniards and Arabs is exemplified again in recent Moroccan disturbances. Both Spanish and French Morocco today reveal a strange medley of ancient customs and modern inventions.

Brass bedsteads and grandfather clocks are set up against walls of exquisite mosaic and intricate arabesque patterns in the new Morocco. Arabs pitch their tents at the foot of great wireless stations. Veiled women of the harem ride through new made streets in automobiles. The streets themselves are indicative of rapid change; for a few years ago no roads ran into Fez, and even yet some of the thoroughfares are so narrow that not even an animal, much less a vehicle, could squeeze through them.

Seems a Streetless City from the Air

If one looks down upon Fez from an airplane, as flyers now do, it would seem to be a streetless city. Many of the narrow, aislelike streets are latticed over to protect the hooded, ghost-like pedestrians from the sun. Others burrow under great estates by tunnels, as does the famous Cliff Walk, at Newport, under several of the gardens of summer homes there.

Conspicuous figures on the business streets are water carriers with the "goat-skin water bags" sung by Kipling. The stranger is puzzled when he notes that these carriers give freely of their supply to everyone who asks without demanding a fee. Later he learns that the merchants along the street pay the carriers and, recalling that any American department store provides a drinking fountain, he gains an inkling that trade carries its burden of service into far-away places. Thirst for this water is somewhat assuaged when the visitor learns that the pots in which this water is collected are made by the lepers who live in fanlike caves just outside the city walls.

Moroccan Funeral Is Gay Spectacle

Perhaps the gayest sight of a Moroccan city is a funeral. The wife who has been cloistered in life is paid every honor in death. She is borne aloft in a great carved box of many colors, and behind her sing choral societies organized to follow funerals. A mere man is swathed in cloth and bound to a board. He has no box.

A marriage register is the Moroccan Bradstreet. A sultan who attained great eminence abdicated some years ago leaving 900 wives behind but took fifty with him for solace in his exile. The more pretentious homes of Fez are built around a courtyard, with tiny rooms opening out upon the court, resembling the setting of a room in some little theater.

The guest in a Moroccan home passes through the court with its inevitable fountain, lays off his shoes before the dining room compartment, as he would upon entering a Chinese temple, and sits down upon a cushion opposite his host. The host would commit a serious breach of etiquette if he touched any food before the guest had finished his meal. After the guest has concluded the host

UMI

good a promise of a trifling present cost a dozen lives in a day. Because one man killed a pig which was eating his crops, the male relative of the pig's owner killed many of the pig slayer's clan over a long period of years.

Male Relatives Are All "Brothers"

Under such a system male relationships assume great importance. A man's third cousin becomes his "brother;" a woman's family ties, outside her parents, husband, or brothers, are matters of small moment. In many places there is no consciousness of kinship between niece and aunt.

But the ramifications of this same code make woman's position higher in Albania than in the Orient, or even in many a more modernized region of Europe. For one thing the man who has a "blood foe" is immune from attack while in company of a woman. Some men are known not to have gone abroad for years without female escort.

Even the minor habits in the daily life of so isolate a people are novel. To be without a mustache is a disgrace in many parts of North, or High, Albania. The Albanian mother tells her child stories in which, unlike our stage melodrama, it always is the hairless man who figures as the villain.

New Moon Bars Hair Cutting

An Albanian barber shop, were there any, would have periodical vacations. For the hair must not be cut during the new moon lest it turn white. One Albanian explained to a traveler that his mustache was white because he had clipped it thoughtlessly at new moon. Fortunately he had waited until the moon was on the wane to trim his hair.

partakes a leisurely repast, and not until he is through is the food he leaves sent to the wives, concealed, but audible, on the upper floor.

Harem Wives Have "Day Out"

The Moroccan wife has somewhat less freedom of movement than an American domestic. Friday afternoon is the "wives' day out" but they may only go to the cemetery then, from which men are excluded for the afternoon. The cemetery is not at all gruesome, however, to the Moroccan way of thinking. Markets are held there, and in various ways the cities of the dead do duty for public parks.

Fez touches the average American—in a very literal sense—by virtue of his pocketbook. In Fez Moroccan leather is cured. Among the most interesting industrial sights of the city are the hollowed out rocks, resembling the cross section of a honeycomb, in which leather is dipped in a solution of lime by natives who, strangely enough, stand in the mixture up to their waists without injury to their skins.

Bulletin No. 5, April 7, 1924.

© National Geographic Society.

A CHRISTIAN MAIDEN OF THE ALBANIAN MOUNTAINS

Her religion is indicated by the fact that she is unveiled. Her country is rugged and in the main inhospitable, and her domestic life is fraught with many hardships; but in one particular the Albanian woman is more fortunate than many of her sisters of the Balkan Peninsula. She is honored and revered by her men folk, and nowhere else in Europe is a woman traveling alone in less danger of molestation than in this so-called "lawless" country. (See Bulletin No. 4.)